

Edited by Joe Ritchie

# Strategies for Success

SLS 1501/2011-2012

With selections from:

*Keys to Success: Building Analytical, Creative, and Practical Skills,*  
Sixth Edition

by Carol Carter, Joyce Bishop, and Sarah Lyman Kravits

*Cornerstone: Discovering Your Potential, Learning Actively, and Living Well,*  
Fifth Edition

by Robert M. Sherfield, Rhonda J. Montgomery, and Patricia G. Moody

*Cornerstone: Creating Success Through Positive Change, Sixth Edition*  
by Robert M. Sherfield and Patricia G. Moody

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# UCF Stands for Opportunity

Dear Incoming Knight:

Welcome to UCF and all of the possibilities it has to offer! As you embark on your journey of becoming a knight we are glad you chose to enroll in Strategies for Success in College. Entering college can be a truly enriching and life changing experience if you are willing to immerse yourself in the endless opportunities.

You have already taken your first step on being a successful student by enrolling in this class. Throughout the course you will be challenged to learn how to communicate effectively, think critically, learn to use effective study strategies to succeed academically, and the importance of becoming an involved student. Take the time to get to know both your peer mentor and instructor within this class. They are here to assist you and have a wealth of knowledge about UCF and the available resources.

As a UCF student, we want you to embody the tenets of the UCF Creed: Integrity, Scholarship, Community, Creativity, and Excellence. These five values should become a part of your every day life and will help you become an engaged member of the UCF community. This class is only the first step in your educational path which will ultimately lead to graduation. Be sure to take advantage of every opportunity and to apply the skills learned from this class to all other aspects of college life. Go Knights!

## Acknowledgments

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Most importantly, I want to extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude to Ms. Arti Bagga who is the current graduate assistant for SLS 1501. Stepping into this role with minimal experience, Arti has gone above my expectations for enhancing the program. Due to her efforts, we have a revised chapter on Time Management, a flourishing peer mentor training program, and resources for peer mentors that can be utilized for years to come. Furthermore, I would like to thank all of the staff and faculty who have served as instructors over the years. Without your dedication and commitment to student success none of this would be possible. Finally, thanks to all the new freshmen who have enrolled in this course. We do this for you and truly delight in all of the successes that each of you accomplish.

Joe Ritchie, Executive Director  
First Year Experience  
June 2011

# Chapter 1

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## UCF History

By Aileen Sousa, edited by Arti Bagga

## New Beginnings

On June 10, 1963, the Governor of Florida signed Bill No. 125 to create a new state university to be built in Orange County. This was to satisfy the rising needs for business, professional, and government leaders in Central Florida, and particularly in the rapidly growing space program.

Seven months later, a 1227 acre site along Alafaya Trail was selected to be the new home for this new university. Most of the land was donated by Frank Adamucci, a New Jersey building contractor. The other half of land was bought by donations from 89 Orange County residents, pledging a total of \$1 million dollars to secure the site.

In October 1965, Dr. Charles Millican was selected by the Board of Regents to be the new university's first president. In his office in downtown Orlando, his first duties were to make decisions on building designs, recruiting academic and administrative staff members, planning the curriculum and giving speeches.

Hoping to attract more high-tech industries to the area, Florida Technological University was chosen as the name in February 1966. Groundbreaking occurred in March of 1967, and by October 7, 1968, classes began. At this time, FTU started with 1,948 students, 90 instructors and 150 staff members, and all classes were held in the same building – the Library. FTU offered 55 degree programs within five colleges: Business Administration; Education; Humanities and Social Sciences; Natural Sciences; and Engineering and Technology.

## Through the Years

### DR. CHARLES MILLICAN 1965-1978

During Dr. Millican's presidency, FTU experienced a lot of growth including:

- 1969 – First Athletic event: Men's Basketball vs. Massey Institute
- 1969 – The formation of the student newspaper: the FuTUre
- 1969 – The first graduate degrees were offered.
- 1970 – Enrollment hit 5000 students
- 1970 – FTU celebrated its first Homecoming
- 1970 – The Knight of the Pegasus was selected as the official mascot.
- 1973 – President Nixon performed the commencement speech in the Reflection Pond.
- 1976 – 10,000 degree was awarded
- 1976 – Greek housing was approved
- 1976 – Bicentennial time capsule was buried in front of Millican Hall.
- 2010 – A memorial service was held for Dr. Millican after he passed away on December 1st 2010



### DR. TREVOR COLBOURN 1978-1989

The new president realized that the community population had changed and diversified, and so had the University. Many students were now enrolled in widely varied academic programs, reflecting a shift in demand for strictly technological and scientific education as the local economy diversified. By the time Dr. Colbourn resigned to return to teaching history in 1989, UCF had a football team, a marching band, four doctoral programs, a Research Park and seven endowed chairs.

- 1978 – FTU became the University of Central Florida
- 1979 – First football game against St. Leo College
- 1980 – Health Center opened
- 1980 – \$8 Million Library expansion was announced
- 1984 – 25,000 degree awarded
- 1987 – 35,000 degree awarded

### DR. STEVEN ALTMAN 1989-1992

Dr. Steven Altman became the University's third president. His contributions ranged from hiring strong deans to raising research dollars to making clear growth plans to boost the University's profile. By spring of 1991, the University had completed a "blueprint" for UCF's future that included a master plan for new construction to accommodate a growing research mission and a student body that was expected to more than double over the next twenty years. UCF was now a "metropolitan university" that would provide facilities and academic programs to match the community's greatest needs.

### DR. JOHN HITT 1992- PRESENT

One of President Hitt's first moves was to draw five clear goals for the school that would become part of the strategic plan and take the University into the 21st Century. UCF has grown tremendously since his arrival at UCF:

- 1992 – Enrollment: 21,682
- 1997 – Student Union opened
- 2001 – UCF Creed was created
- 2004 – Rosen College of Hospitality opened new campus
- 2005 – UCF moved to Conference USA
- 2005 – 150,000 degree awarded
- 2005 – UCF played in its first Bowl game in Hawaii
- 2006 – Established Medical School
- 2006 – Enrollment: 46,863 (projected)
- 2010 – UCF won its first Bowl game in Memphis



## Pegasus Seal

**APRIL 5, 1968**

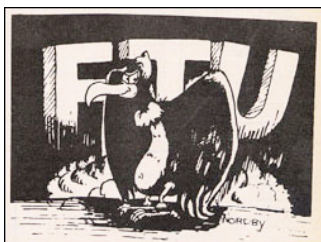
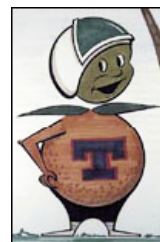
The Pegasus design was chosen because it so completely spans the centuries. It is at least as old as Asia Minor itself, from which the myth of Pegasus is thought to have originated; as futuristic as tomorrow's space exploration in our solar system and into the universe beyond. This seal design bridges the gap between the humanities and space technology.

The seal also tied in with FTU's theme of "Reach for the Stars." The seal showed Pegasus with a single star, depicting the ultimate goal. The theme "Reach for the Stars" was an admonition and a challenge to today's young people to strive for the outer limits of their abilities.



## Mascot

The first student handbook was issued for the 1968-1969 academic year, and on its cover was FTU's first mascot: The Citronaut. However, this choice was unpopular with students. In fact, they had a few suggestions of their own.



The Student Body had suggested Vincent, inspired by the vultures that circled campus. While popular with the student body, campus administrators were not impressed. The Mascot Committee presented their candidates for a campus wide vote, and Vincent was not on the ballot.

Instead, FTU students chose "Knights of the Pegasus" with a great majority of the vote. Knightro has changed a lot through the years, and has even gained his friend, Glycerin, in the process. Nevertheless, Knightro has always been the shining pride of the UCF Knights.



# UCF Traditions

## HOMECOMING WEEK

Homecoming is a campus-wide celebration that is a time for students to showcase their pride in their school through attending various events throughout the week. Each year is themed differently, but festivities usually include: a community service event, movies, skit competitions and performances, comedians, a parade around campus, and of course, the Homecoming football game. Undeniably, the biggest event during Homecoming Week is Spirit Splash!

## SPIRIT SPLASH

Spirit Splash occurs the Friday of Homecoming Week and was voted best campus tradition by the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) in 2011. Spirit Splash is the only time of the year when students can enter the Reflection Pond. Thousands of students surround and fill the pond to get excited for the homecoming game. Everyone from the President of the university to the football coach, band, cheerleaders, dancers, and football players all come out for the biggest pep rally of the year.



## FAMILY WEEKEND

Family weekend takes place during the football season and is a weekend dedicated to welcoming family members to UCF and the surrounding community. Many campus departments host different events, such as tail-gates or showcases for family members to spend time together while also learning more about UCF and what it has to offer students. Family members also get the opportunity to attend one of the home football games.

## DON'T WALK ON THE PEGASUS!

In the center of the Student Union lies the University Pegasus Seal. The legend says that anyone who steps foot on the Pegasus seal will not graduate from UCF. Legends aside, students still avoid this ground to show respect for all that our university stands for.

## FOOTBALL GAMES

Now with the new Bright House Networks Stadium, our traditions have expanded. The Knight Walk is a new tradition where UCF fans, along with the marching Knights, can greet the football team as they make their way

from Knights Plaza. Perhaps some of the most popular traditions are to shake your keys at the start of every kick off, to participate in the UCF chant, and to shake the stadium to “Zombie Nation.” As a new Knight, you have the chance to not only build on these traditions but also create new ones.

## BASKETBALL GAMES

In addition to building a new football stadium, our campus has also welcomed a brand new arena. Students, cheerleaders and the band all pack the arena throughout the season to cheer on our Knights. Basketball has its own set of traditions that includes chants and ways to distract our opponents: all of these traditions are fun and easy to learn!

## PEGASUS PALOOZA

Pegasus Palooza is UCF’s official Welcome Week aimed at welcoming all new incoming students, as well as welcoming back current students. Pegasus Palooza is a collaboration between SGA, the Office of First Year Experience, and the Office of Student Involvement.

## NOTABLE KNIGHTS

UCF has many famous alumni we are proud of and listed below are some names you may recognize. Who have you heard of?

Daunte Culpepper, *Former NFL Quarterback, Minnesota Vikings*

Ericka Dunlap, *Miss America, 2003*

Michelle Akers, *Olympics, World Cup Soccer Player, FIFA’s Woman Player of the Century (2002)*

Tyler Fisher, *UCF’s First Rhodes Scholar*

Cheryl Hines, *Emmy-nominated Actress*

Daniel Myrick, Eduardo Sanchez, *Writer, Director, Producer, Blair Witch Project*

Phil Daulhausser, *2008 Olympic Beach Volleyball Gold Medalist*

Jon Bersia, *Pulitzer Prize winner, Orlando Sentinel*

Lee Constantine, *Florida State Senator*

Laurette Koellner, *President, Boeing International*

Al Weiss, *President of Worldwide Operations, Walt Disney Parks and Resorts*

William Parson, *Director of Space Shuttle Program, NASA*

Daniel Tosh, *Stand-up Comedian, Host of Tosh.O*

## ALMA MATER

All Hail to Alma Mater  
Whose banner black and gold,  
Will wave in fame and splendor  
As the passing years unfold.

May loyalty and friendship  
Within our hearts unite  
And light the star to guide us  
Ever upward in our flight.

With honor and affection  
Our friendship will renew  
We sing of thee, our Alma Mater,  
Ever true!

## FIGHT SONG

U-C-F Charge onto the field!  
With our spirit, we'll never yield!  
Black and Gold,  
charge right through the line!  
Victory is our cry  
V-I-C-T-O-R-Y  
Tonight, Our Knights will shine!  
U-C-F Knights, U-C-F let's go Knights!